

Methods: Stool specimens collected from children aged 3 months - 5 years with and without diarrhea were cultured for enteric pathogens. Food samples focusing on fresh chicken, pork, fish were collected from a main market and processed for culture. Enteric pathogens were identified by standard microbiology techniques. *Shigella*, *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* isolates were serotyped and drug susceptibility testing was performed.

Results: A total of 236 stool specimens from cases and 236 from controls were collected in a year. Bacterial enteric pathogens including *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, ETEC were commonly isolated from both cases and controls (22% vs. 25%; 6% vs. 9%; 8% vs. 6%, respectively). Only *Shigella* was significantly detected in cases (9%) more than in controls (0%). In 82 food samples, *Salmonella* (73%) *Campylobacter* (60%) and *A. butzleri* (65%) were the most common pathogens. Approximately 70% of the samples were contaminated with more than one pathogen or more than one serotype. Only 13% of food samples were negative for enteric pathogens. About 60% of children infected with *Salmonella* were infected with the same serotypes isolated from food. *Salmonella* isolates from human and food were all sensitive to ciprofloxacin and 75-80% were sensitive to TMP-SXT. Ciprofloxacin resistant *Campylobacter* was demonstrated in 35% of human isolates and none was resistant to azithromycin. Serotype distribution of *Campylobacter* isolates from humans and food will also be compared.

Conclusions: This study shows a high prevalence of enteric pathogens circulating among humans as well as the high contamination rate of foods of animal origin with *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*. Molecular comparison of isolates from food and humans would be a further epidemiological study.

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REEVALUATION OF COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE ENZYME-LINKED IMMUNOSORBENT ASSAY FOR THE DETECTION OF *GIARDIA LAMBLIA*, AND *CRYPTOSPORIDIUM* SPP., FROM STOOL SPECIMENS

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This study aimed, to detect *Giardia lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium* spp. infection from stool specimens. A total of 345 stool specimens were examined by microscopy (both direct smear and formalin concentration), and ELISA techniques (ProSpecT Microplate Assay) for *Giardia lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium* spp. Of 73 tests positive *G. lamblia*, 41 (56.2%) were microscopy positive, and 70 (95.9%) were positive by ELISA. Of 16 tests positive for *Cryptosporidium* spp., 5 (31.3%) were microscopy positive, and 16 (100%) were positive by ELISA technique. The results demonstrated that ELISA method was quick, simple, and more sensitive than the microscopy method and should be used for the detection of *Giardia lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium* spp. where the prevalence of these protozoan parasites was the public health problem.

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